

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An isolated protein having activity of inhibiting anthrax toxin, said protein having the following characteristics:

- (i) hydrophobic in nature,
- (ii) molecular weight 67 kDa,
- (iii) stable at room temperature,
- (iv) resistant to trypsin,
- (v) has no proteolytic activity,
- (vi) inhibits proteolytic cleavage of protective antigen (PA) of *Bacillus anthracis* in a dose dependent manner,
- (vii) binds to IgE, ~~and~~
- (viii) is devoid of any carbohydrate moiety; and
- (ix) is obtained from pollen grains of a grass of a genus selected from group consisting of *Imperata*, a genus related to *Imperata*, *Lolium*, a genus related to *Lolium*, *Phleum*, a genus related to *Phleum*, *Cynodon* and a genus related to *Cynodon*.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The protein of claim 1 wherein the protein is stable in the temperature range of about 3°C to 40°C.

4. **(previously presented)** The protein of claim 3 wherein the protein is stable in the temperature range of about 4°C to 37°C.

5. **(currently amended)** The protein of claim 1, wherein protein in the range of about 25-20 ng completely inhibits the cleavage of 5 µg of the protective antigen of *Bacillus anthracis* by trypsin.

6. **(currently amended)** The protein of claim 1, wherein the protein in the range of about 15-5 ng ~~partially~~ inhibits the cleavage of 5 µg of the protective antigen of *Bacillus anthracis* by trypsin.

7. **(previously presented)** The protein of claim 1, wherein the protein in the range of about 25 ng to 11,000 ng is effective in inhibiting anthrax toxin activity.

8. **(previously presented)** The protein of claim 1, wherein the protein in the range of about 50 ng to 10,000 ng is effective in inhibiting anthrax toxin activity.

9-20. **(canceled)**

21. **(previously presented)** The protein of claim 1, wherein the grass is selected from the group consisting of *Imperata cylindrica*, *Lolium perenne*, *Phleum pratense* and *Cynodon dactylon*.

22-34. (canceled)

35. (new) The protein of claim 1, wherein the grass is *Imperata cylindrica*.

36. (new) The protein of claim 1, wherein said protein inhibits anthrax toxin *in vitro*.

37. (new) The protein of claim 1 that is isolated using hydrophobic column chromatography.

38. (new) The protein of claim 1, wherein said protein is obtained from pollen grains of a grass of a genus selected from group consisting of *Imperata*, *Lolium*, *Phleum*, and *Cynodon*.